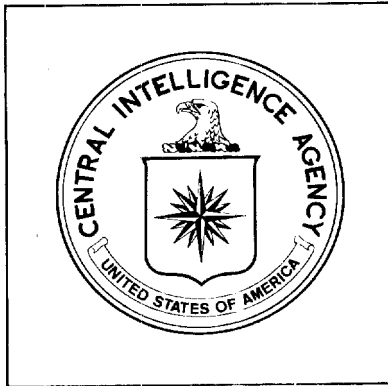


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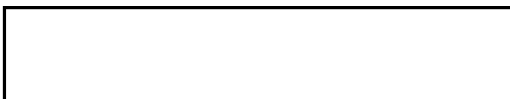
## STAFF NOTES:

# Soviet Union Eastern Europe

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## SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the USSR - Eastern Europe Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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Soviets Strive for Major Role  
as Military Aid Donor to Tanzania

The Soviet Union is expanding its role as a donor of military aid to Tanzania in an effort to chip away at Peking's predominance.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the value of Soviet military aid to Tanzania may finally exceed that given by the Chinese, who since the mid-1960s have been Dar es Salaam's major source of arms, totaling at least \$62 million. During President Nyerere's visit to Peking last March, the Chinese extended another generous economic credit and signed a new military agreement. The value of the military package is still unknown, but small arms and 85-mm. guns will reportedly be provided. While Peking from time to time has been critical of Tanzania's inefficient use of its military aid, relations continue to be close. The Tanzanians, however, could not hope to obtain such sophisticated equipment as surface-to-air missiles and MIG-21 type aircraft from China, and this may have led them to turn to Moscow for help.

Tanzania will find it hard to pay for the arms included in the 1974 agreement even if payments are spread out over a number of years. President Nyerere is already hard pressed to meet the costs of petroleum, food imports, and economic development projects. The purchase of arms, however, would be consistent with Dar es Salaam's determination to

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give greater priority to the improvement of the armed forces, partly because of its concern over Uganda's receipt of Soviet arms.

Soviet attempts to court Tanzania have not however, all gone smoothly. The cancellation of President Podgorny's December trip ruffled feathers in Dar es Salaam, and there appears to be some disagreement over the details of the Soviet training program for Tanzanian military personnel currently in the USSR.

Moscow's effort to expand its diplomatic mission in Tanzania also is running into trouble.

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There are Soviet advisers and technicians working in Tanzania on a couple of small economic aid projects, and some military advisers can be expected to accompany deliveries of Soviet military equipment in the future. Several incidents have already arisen including the reported attempt by the Tanzanian Security Service last summer to arrest the Tass correspondent for espionage. The Soviets apparently had difficulty in straightening out the affair. Western countries have long encountered trouble in dealing with the local Tanzanian officials, and the Soviets probably want to avoid any more problems in the future.

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Vatican Announces New Hungarian Bishops

The further upgrading of the rank of the church hierarchy announced by the Vatican last week demonstrates the improvement of relations between Budapest and the Vatican.

The two sides had negotiated the new appointments last November. The appointees include five new residential bishops and four lesser ranking diocesan heads. The Vatican filled three bishoprics that had been vacant since 1971, and appointed bishops in two dioceses that have had lower level leadership for some time, probably since the Communist take-over of Hungary.

One of the new bishops, Imre Timko, has actively participated in the regime's "peace priest" movement. He appears to be the first Hungarian peace priest ever to be appointed a bishop, and his selection was probably accepted by the Vatican with reluctance.

The leader of the sensitive Esztergom diocese was upgraded to auxiliary bishop. The new appointee is Ivan Palos, an unknown cleric who presumably will eventually become a strong contender to become Archbishop of Esztergom (and primate of Hungary). A year ago, the Vatican pressed Jozsef Cardinal Mindszenty to relinquish these titles, which have historically designated the spiritual leader of Roman Catholics in Hungary and the Slovak lands of Czechoslovakia. The Vatican probably will not fill these liturgical offices at least until after Mindszenty dies.

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